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29 April 1949

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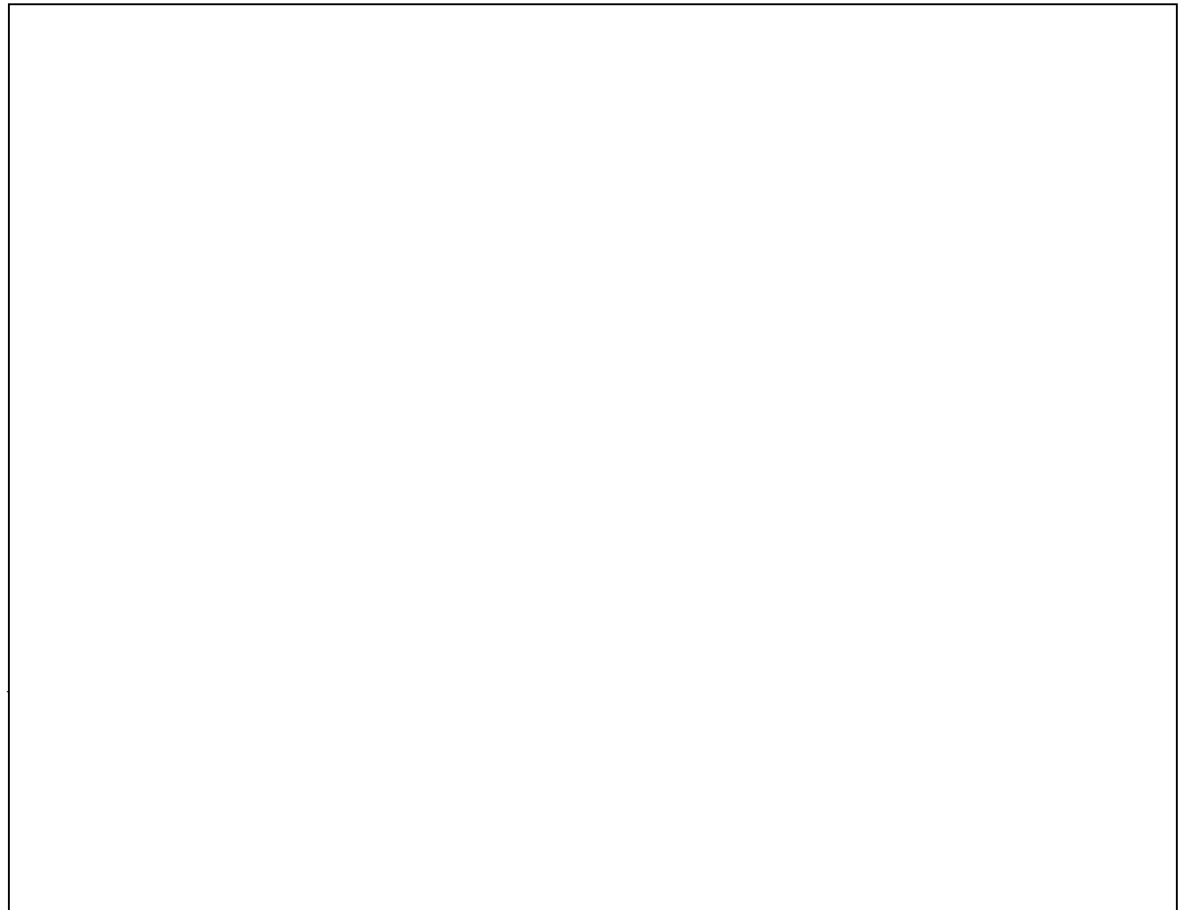
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✓ Soviet Propaganda In a further effort to counteract the effect of the Atlantic Pact and growing political and economic unity in Western Europe, the USSR is placing greater propaganda emphasis on Communist gains in the Far East. By stressing that the Communist victories in China will result in important changes in the world balance-of-power, the USSR hopes to: (1) convince audiences at home and in the colonial areas that Soviet power is invincible; and (2) undermine western confidence in the ability of the West to prevent further Soviet expansion. With fewer opportunities in Europe for propaganda exploitation, the USSR will probably devote its propaganda efforts more and more to the Far East and colonial areas. As part of this new emphasis, Soviet propaganda will portray the USSR as the exclusive champion of independence for the countries of southeast Asia and of industrialization of all backward areas. Simultaneously, Soviet propaganda will accuse the western powers of advocating the perpetuation of agricultural economies in Asia and will portray the Truman point-four program as a device to exploit the backward areas of the world and to keep them at the mercy of the industrial West.

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#### GERMANY

✓ Soviet Overtures    Regardless of the outcome of the Jessup-Malik talks on the lifting of the Berlin blockade, the Soviet action in publicizing the negotiations at this time reflects the Kremlin's desire to regain the initiative in the struggle for Germany. Confronted with the failure of the blockade and the early establishment of a west

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## GERMANY

German government, the Kremlin probably hopes that by taking some step to relax East-West tension, it can halt further western consolidation. In Germany, the USSR may hope to delay formation of a west German state by raising once again the possibility of a unified Germany. In Europe, the USSR may hope that a show of Soviet conciliation will lessen the feeling of urgency for military preparedness and so delay, or at least weaken, the Military Aid Program. If the USSR does lift the blockade and enters into four-power discussions on the German question, the maximum Soviet aim in Germany will be the establishment of a regime which will grant the Soviet Union opportunities for ultimate control over the entire country. The minimum Soviet aim will be a "neutral" Germany which will prevent west Germany from being exclusively under western-power control. If either of these aims should prove unobtainable and if the Kremlin should conclude that a settlement would threaten Soviet control over east Germany, the USSR might then abandon its "unity" theme and establish an east German state under exclusive Soviet domination.

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## EASTERN EUROPE

### SOVIET UNION

✓ Israeli Relations    Increasing Communist attacks on Zionism and the Israeli Government, although placing a strain on Israeli-Soviet relations, are unlikely to change either the Kremlin's external policy toward Israel or Israel's generally neutral position between East and West. In recent months, the Communist parties in the Soviet orbit, the US, and even in Israel have reverted to traditional Communist opposition to Zionist nationalism, and Soviet propaganda has begun to condemn the "bourgeois" nature of the new Israeli Government. The Satellite states, apparently reluctant to lose large segments of their skilled and educated citizens, have drastically reduced emigration to Israel, thereby discouraging Israeli hopes of fulfilling its immigration requirements. Within the Soviet Union, the current anti-Jewish campaign seems to have been inspired in part by the growth of pro-Zionist sentiment among Soviet Jews after Israel's emergence as an independent state. These attacks, however, rather than representing a fundamental change in Kremlin external policy toward Israel, appear to stem primarily from internal Soviet considerations. For, so long as support of Israel will serve to weaken US-UK influence in the Near East, the USSR will continue to aid Israel on a diplomatic level and in the UN. Nonetheless, because Zionism is basically incompatible with Communism and any non-Communist government is automatically suspect, the USSR feels forced to attack the present Israeli Government and to eliminate all Zionist influence within the Soviet orbit.

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